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a selecting device to select a radio frequency channel corresponding to a major channel number selected by a user outside of an EPG environment; and

a display to display, as a viewing program, a program of a minor channel received through said selected RF channel corresponding to the major channel number selected by the user, and to automatically display minor channel numbers received through said major channel and the major channel number.

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 7, 17 and 18 have been amended. Claims 1-14, 17 and 18 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C § 102:

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 10 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being rejected by U.S. Patent 6,111,611 to Ozkan.

Examiner's Response to Arguments

In the Response filed June 26, 2002, the Applicants argued that the Examiner's cited references do not teach or suggest "automatically displaying on a television screen, minor channel numbers of programs received through a currently selected major channel and a number of the major channel," as recited, for example, in claim 1. In response to this argument, the Examiner states that the claimed feature is broad enough to read on a subscriber within an EPG service, and is therefore taught by Ozkan et al. Furthermore, the Examiner states that the hierarchical menu system of Ozkan et al. inherently includes displaying channel numbers.

Applicants' Response to Examiner

Claim 1 is amended herein to recite that the changing to the demanded major channel is

performed "outside of an EPG environment." Thus, claim 1 is distinguishable from the menu system of Ozkan et al., which the Examiner acknowledges is an EPG. Thus, even assuming, arguendo, that the EPG of Ozkan et al. does inherently display channel numbers, a user would have to make a demand to display the EPG information in addition to the demand to change channel numbers. Page 2 of the present Specification sets forth the disadvantage of this additional demand, and distinguishes the present invention from the EPG environment.

Accordingly, claim 1, and claims 3, 5, 7 and 10 depending therefrom, are distinguishable from Ozkan et al.

Independent claims 7, 17 and 18 recite similar features that distinguish these claims from the Examiner's cited references. Accordingly, independent claims 7, 17 and 18, and claim 10 depending therefrom, are distinguishable from Ozkan et al.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C § 103

At pages 5-6, item 5 of the Office Action, claims 2, 8-9, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozkan et al. This rejection is traversed insofar as Ozkan does not teach or suggest claimed features, as discussed above.

At page 6, item 6 of the Office Action, claims 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozkan et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,172,674 to Etheredge. Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1, and are therefore patentable over Ozkan et al. Etheredge does not overcome the above deficiencies in Ozkan et al., and is not relied on for this purpose. Instead, the Examiner relies upon Etheredge as disclosing hiding channel numbers after a prescribed time has elapsed. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 4 and 6 is requested.

At pages 6-8, item 7 of the Office Action, claims 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozkan et al. and further in view of Keenan (U.S. Patent 5,629,733). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the following arguments.

Claims 12 and 14 depend from claim 7, and are therefore patentable over Ozkan et al. for at least the above reasons. Keenan does not overcome the above deficiencies in Ozkan et al., and is not relied upon by the Examiner for this purpose. Instead, the Examiner relies upon Keenan as disclosing an endless loop operation. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 12 and 14 is requested.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 7, 17 and 18 in accordance with the following:

1. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A method for displaying channel information on a digital television for receiving digital multichannel television broadcasting, comprising the steps of:

changing a current channel to a demanded major channel outside of an EPG environment in response to a demand to change a major channel; and

automatically displaying on a television screen, minor channel numbers of programs received through a currently selected major channel and a number of the major channel.

7. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A method for displaying channel information on a digital television for receiving digital multichannel television broadcasting, comprising the steps of:

selecting a radio frequency (RF) channel corresponding to a major channel number selected by a user outside of an EPG environment;

displaying, as a viewing program, a program of a minor channel received through said selected RF channel corresponding to the major channel number selected by the user; and

automatically displaying minor channel numbers received through said major channel on a television screen and the major channel number.

17. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) An apparatus for displaying channel information on a digital television for receiving digital multichannel television broadcasting, comprising:

a channel changing device to change a current channel to a selected major channel

outside of an EPG environment; and

a display to automatically display minor channel numbers of programs received through the selected major channel and a number of the major channel.

18. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A device for displaying channel information on a digital television for receiving digital multichannel television broadcasting, comprising:

a selecting device to select a radio frequency channel corresponding to a major channel number selected by a user outside of an EPG environment; and

a display to display, as a viewing program, a program of a minor channel received through said selected RF channel corresponding to the major channel number selected by the user, and to automatically display minor channel numbers received through said major channel and the major channel number.